

The LECs operate an "essential facility", and should have to accommodate other ISP firms that wish to purchase access from them. This wholesale provisioning stimulates competition and benefits consumers. Chairman Powell: Please do not sell out to BIG BUSINESS, at the expense of competition and the small businesses of our country. Being a rural subscriber, the phone service I have (Sprint) is already the worst example of a phone company I have ever seen. Please do not compound the problem by not allowing independant businesses (ISP'S) to remain in business to provide true local service. Thank you.